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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

A method of presenting an audiovisual signal to a user's audiovisual display monitor comprising:

receiving a command from the user;

responding to the command by assigning an assignable computing

device (ACD) to the user;

establishing a communications link between the user's audiovisual

display monitor and the ACD;

presenting a menu containing a selection of video programs to the

user's audiovisual display monitor with the ACD;

selecting one of the video programs for display; and

routing said selected video program to the user's audiovisual display

monitor.

2. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein presenting includes:

displaying graphical images representative of buttons on the user's

20 audiovisual display monitor.

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3. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein establishing includes:

receiving commands from an in-room communications device with
the ACD; and

responding to said commands with responsive graphical images

displayed on the user's audiovisual display monitor.

4. A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein receiving commands include:

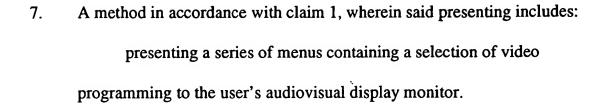
demodulating an RF signal containing said commands received over said communications link.

5. A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said responding to said commands include:

modulating an RF carrier with a signal carrying said responsive graphical images; and

transmitting said RF carrier to the user's audiovisual display monitor.

6. A method in accordance with claim 4, wherein said commands select the one of the video programs for display.



- 5 8. A method in accordance with claim 7, wherein said series of menus reflects the currently available video programs.
 - 9. A method in accordance with claim 7, wherein said series of menus reflects a set of user preferences.

10. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein routing said selected video program includes;

obtaining the video signal from an audiovisual serving device to the user's video modulating the video signal onto an RF carrier; and

- transmitting said RF carrier to the user's audiovisual display monitor.
 - 11. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the ACD causes the selected video program to be transmitted over the communications link to the user's audiovisual display monitor.

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- 12. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein a host computing device in communication with the ACD causes the video program to be transmitted over the communications link to the user's audiovisual display monitor.
- 5 13. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

breaking said communications link between the user and the ACD in response to selecting; and

establishing another communications link between an audiovisual server device having stored thereon the selected video program and the user's audiovisual display monitor.

14. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

presenting a broadcast channel on the user's audiovisual display monitor prior to said receiving.

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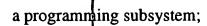
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15. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said responding further includes:

having a host computing device in communication with the user's audiovisual display monitor assign an ACD to the user.

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An apparatus for presenting an audiovisual signal to a user's audiovisual display monitor, comprising:



- a Room Communication Subsystem (RCS);
- a Site Management Subsystem (SMS);

said RCS connecting a plurality of user's audiovisual display monitors to

said programming subsystem includi

said programming subsystem including a plurality of audiovisual serving devices communicating with the user's audiovisual display monitor over said RCS; and

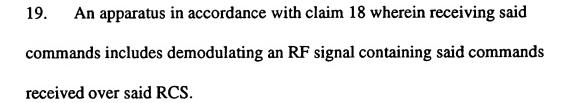
said SMS assigning an Assignable Computing Device (ACD) audiovisual serving device to present a menu containing a selection of video programs to the user's audiovisual display monitor over said RCS.

- 17. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein said menu display image is representative of buttons on user's audiovisual display monitor.
- 18. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein said ACD receives commands from an in-room communication device; and

responds to said commands with a responsive display image on the user's audiovisual display monitor.

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5 20. An apparatus in accordance with claim 18 wherein responding to said commands includes:

modulating an RF carries with a signal carrying said responsive display images; and

transmitting said RF carries to the user's audiovisual display monitor.

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- 21. An apparatus in accordance with claim 18 wherein said commands select the video programs for display.
- 22. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein said ACD presents a
 series of menus containing a selection of video programs to the user's audiovisual display monitor.
 - 23. An apparatus in accordance with claim 22 wherein said series of menus reflects the currently available video programs.

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24. An apparatus in accordance with claim 22 wherein said series of menus reflects a set of user preferences.

- 25. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein said SMS in communication with said ACD causes a video program to be transmitted by said programming subsystem to the user's audiovisual display monitor.
- 5 26. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein selecting a video program from said menu breaks the communications links between said ACD and the user's audiovisual display monitor.
 - 27. An apparatus in accordance with claim 16 wherein said programming subsystem presents a broadcast channel prior to said ACD presenting said menu.